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Minutes 05/06/2009

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
730 Mass. Ave., Arlington, Ma. 02476
Approved MINUTES – May 6, 2009, 7:00 pm

Present: Ann LeRoyer, Chair; David White, Patsy Kraemer, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, Leslie Mayer

Minutes for the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

Ann informed the committee that she had not received the notice this year asking for our committee report for the Town Report; therefore no report was submitted for 2008.

Busa Farm

The committee discussed in detail a hearing that had been held on Tuesday night before this meeting on the possible sale of Busa Farms in Lexington. The proposed sale is to the Town of Lexington. The price is 4+ million dollars; Lexington plans to use their CPA funds for the purchase. Lexington is planning to have a capital planning study prepared to determine how the land will be used. It will have to be used within the guidelines for CPA money. Busa Farms will continue farming on the land under lease arrangements while the planning phase is completed.

David wondered how Arlington should be involved in the project given that we are abutters to the land. Joey suggested that we send a memo to the manager re establishing a liaison with this project.

Mill Brook

Discussion turned to the Mill Brook project and whether to introduce this idea to Town Meeting via a verbal report. The committee decided to keep a report on "hold" for now since it's premature. Leslie is to draft a letter from Arlington (town manager's office) to the Lexington Board of Selectmen to express the concerns of the Open Space Committee and the Conservation Commission.

Reservoir

Leslie reported that there are plans and money for a habitat garden at the reservoir. There was a plan to have a student volunteer do this project to satisfy her school program. However this particular project was rejected by her professor. Leslie recommended asking her to expand her study project to include the Mill Brook area from the Reservoir to Hurd Field and Colonial Village.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm for Town Meeting members to be in attendance at that meeting.
Patsy Kraemer, Clerk Pro Temp